

Hello, my name is Kim Reitmeier, and I serve as President of the ANCSA Regional Association. Our organization represents more than 100,000 Alaska Native shareholders. The ANCSA Regional Association represents the Chief Executive Officers of the 12 land-based regional Alaska Native Corporations, established pursuant to the passage of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act of 1971; and recognizes civic engagement as an essential element to the success of our culture and communities.

We appreciate the time to testify on House Bill 216- which recognizes all Alaska Native languages as official languages for the state of Alaska. The ANCSA Regional Association supports House Bill 216. Establishing the Alaska Native languages as official languages of the state is an important step in recognizing the vital role of the Alaska Native people and our culture. We wholeheartedly support passing this HB 216 out of Committee for a chance for it to be voted up on the House Floor. Thank you for your time and consideration.